

Message Text

PAGE 01 STOCKH 05418 061109Z
ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 /020 W
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R 281406Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2643

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 5418

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP (BURENSTAM LINDER), SW, EGEN
SUBJ: SHORT BIOGRAPHIC SKETCH OF MINISTER OF COMMERCE FOR HIS
VISIT TO US

REF: STOCKHOLM 5385

1. STAFFAN BURENSTAM LINDER WAS APPOINTED MINISTER OF COMMERCE IN OCTOBER 1976. HE HAS BEEN A MEMBER OF THE RIKSDAG (MODERATE PARTY) SINCE 1969, WHERE HE SERVED MOST NOTABLY ON THE FINANCE COMMITTEE. HE WAS BORN IN 1931.

2. CAREER: DOCTOR OF ECONOMICS AT THE STOCKHOLM SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS 1961; ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AT STOCKHOLM SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS SINCE 1961. STUDIED 1958-61 AT MIT, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA (BERKELEY), AND YALE UNIVERSITY. VISITING PROFESSOR AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY 1962-63 AND YALE UNIVERSITY 1966.

3. PUBLICATIONS: "AN ESSAY ON TRADE AND TRANSFORMATION" 1961, "TRADE AND TRADE POLICY FOR DEVELOPMENT" 1967, "THE HARRIED LEISURE CLASS" 1970.

4. PERSONAL: MARRIED WITH THREE CHILDREN. SPECIAL INTERESTS: WALKING IN THE MOUNTAINS, SKATING, CROSS COUNTRY SKIING.

5. LINDER LIKES TO THINK OF HIMSELF AS STIMULATING AND EVEN CONTROVERSIAL. HE HAS BEEN KNOWN TO INTRODUCE SOMEWHAT REVO-
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LUTIONARY IDEAS AT OTHERWISE INSIGNIFICANT AND LOW KEY MEETINGS, WHICH ON OCCASION HIS SUBORDINATES HAVE FELT CALLED UPON TO DISCLAIM. HE IS CURRENTLY VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE EXISTING STRUCTURE OF WORLD TRADE AND ON AT LEAST ONE OCCASION SUGGESTED THAT MODIFICATION OF GATT MAY BE NECESSARY TO ACCOMMODATE LOW-LABOR COST COUNTRIES SUCH AS THOSE IN THE FAR EAST. HE HAS ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT JAPAN'S PLACE IN THE WORLD TRADING COMMUNITY BECAUSE OF THE CLOSE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY WHICH HE BELIEVES GIVES JAPANESE PRODUCERS UNFAIR ADVANTAGES.

KENNEDY-MINOTT

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Message Attributes

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